

CAPTAIN FERDINAND BIJKERK - August 17, 2006

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1 Q Let's say the slings --

2 A Or in general?

3 Q Well, as I understand it, on August 24,  
4 2002, when the slings were loaded, there were other  
5 slings that were returned at the same time.

6 A That's correct.

7 Q I think something like 822 -- or over 800  
8 slings.

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q And those were returned at the Port of  
11 Holmsund?

12 A Yes, sir.

13 Q But are you telling me that that's not  
14 necessarily the same place where you would always  
15 give the slings back to Locatum?

16 A That's what I said.

17 Q Okay. It could be at other locations.

18 A It can be, yeah.

19 Q But as I understand your testimony, like  
20 those 822 slings that you returned on August 24th,  
21 you did not have anybody or yourself or have anybody  
22 look at those slings or inspect them before  
23 returning them to Locatum.

24 A Not on these slings.

25 Q Was there any reason for that?

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1 A No time.

2 Q Didn't have the time.

3 A Yes, sir.

4 Q Were there occasions when you did have the  
5 time that you would take a look at those slings?

6 A When we have a bigger, longer ballast trip  
7 and the crew has some more time, then we do some  
8 recounting to be sure how many belts, slings, we  
9 have on board. And then we also check if they are  
10 damaged or not.

11 Q And if they're damaged, would you cut them  
12 up?

13 A I will cut them up.

14 Q Okay. Now, did you ever find out whether  
15 or not Interforest had rejected any of the slings  
16 that it had inspected before the loading process on  
17 August 24th?

18 A I didn't see it.

19 Q You don't know?

20 A I don't know.

21 Q Okay. Did you personally observe any of  
22 those 468 slings being inspected or looked at by  
23 Interforest people before the loading operation?

24 A That's their standard procedure, as far as  
25 I understand. Before loading, they check -- the